

## National Weather Service Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



September 2003 Time Local/ Path Length Path Number of Estimated Width Persons Damage **HAWAII** HIZ004-008 Kauai Mountains - Oahu Koolau 0000HST 0600HST 0 0 Heavy Surf/High Surf A swell from Tropical Storm Jimena produced surf of 10 to 15 feet along the east- and southeast-facing shores of the Big Island of Hawaii. There were no reports of serious injuries or property damage. HIZ001>003-005>006 Niihau - Kauai Windward - Kauai Leeward - Oahu South Shore - Waianae Coast 0300HST 0800HST Heavy Surf/High Surf A swell from Tropical Storm Jimena generated surf of 4 to 8 feet along the east- and southeast-facing shores of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and Maui. No serious property damage or injuries were reported. However, more than 350 swimmers had to be rescued from waters off the south shore of Oahu during the Waikiki Roughwater Swim during the morning hours of the 1st of September. Strong currents forced many of the event's participants to seek assistance in getting out of the water. Those who had to be helped were rescued by city lifeguards, the fire department, the Coast Guard, and Good Samaritans. The Honolulu Police Department and Emergency Medical Services also contributed to the overall operation. **Hawaii County** 17 NW Laupahoehoe to 10 SSW Naalehu 0 0 **Heavy Rain** Rain bands associated with Tropical Storm Jimena, which was passing more than 100 miles south, moved over coastal and upslope sections of the Hamakua, Hilo, Puna, and Kau districts on the Big Island of Hawaii, from near Hopokaa all the way southward to near Ka Lae (South Point). The heavy rain and showers caused stream and drainage ditch flooding, and ponding of roadways in populated areas over the eastern half of the isle. The rain and occasional easterly wind gusts of 35 to 40 mph caused isolated power outages as well. However, no serious injuries or property damage were reported HIZ001>002 Niihau - Kauai Windward 0700HST 1400HST Heavy Surf/High Surf A strong low in the southern hemisphere near New Zealand produced surf of 4 to 8 feet along the south shores of Kauai and Oahu. There were no reports of serious injuries or property damage. **Honolulu County** Laie to Honolulu 2045HST 0845HST 0 **Heavy Rain** Heavy showers caused ponding of roadways, and drainage ditch and stream flooding in eastern and southern parts of Oahu. However, there were no reports of serious property damage or injuries. **Honolulu County** 0 0 **Funnel Cloud** Wahiawa 11 A police officer spotted a funnel cloud near the town of Wahiawa on Oahu. The funnel cloud dissipated within a short time **Maui County** 3 SSW Kahului Wildfire 0445HST



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		Time	Path	Path	Number of		Estimated		September 2003	
		Local/	Length	Width	Persons		Damage			
Location	Date	Standard	(Miles)	(Yards)	Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	Character of Storm	

#### **HAWAII**

A controlled burn by the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company got out of hand near Waikapu on Maui when the wind carried some of the flames into nearby mountainous terrain. The fire ended up blackening about 1000 acres of parched grassland, to as high as 2000 feet in elevation in the West Maui Mountains. The blaze forced the evacuation of the Sandalwood and Grand Waikapu golf courses for a few hours during the afternoon of the 16th and all day on the 17th. State and federal firefighters, with the help of four water-carrying helicopters (including a large Chinook from the Hawaii Army National Guard on Oahu), battled the fire over several days. However, no serious injuries or property damage were reported

#### Honolulu County 1 SE Waialua

23 2000HST 0 0 Wildfire

A fire scorched about 1100 acres of old sugar cane and pineapple fields near Waialua on Oahu. Several homes near the blaze had to be evacuated as a precaution, as flames came within 20 feet of three residences in Poamoho Estates and within 100 yards of homes along Hukilau Loop. The fire downed some power lines, which caused sporadic outages in a few nearby neighborhoods and at Schofield Barracks. It also forced occasional closures of roads and highways around Waialua and Thomson Corner, slowing and snarling traffic at times. County and military firefighters fought the blaze, with the help of one county and two Army Blackhawk helicopters. The fire had started during the evening of the 23rd, near the University of Hawaii's Poamoho Experiment Station off Kaukonahua Road, although its cause was not known. There were no serious injuries or property damage

#### Hawaii County 6 S Pahoa

30 1230HST 0 0 Wildfire

A brush fire scorched about 200 acres in the Kalapana area of the Big Island of Hawaii. The fire threatened several homes in the Black Sands Beach subdivision, but firefighters were able to prevent the flames from doing damage to any structures. There were no evacuations or serious injuries. The cause of the blaze was unknown, but fire officials were looking into the possibility of arso.

### **HAWAII WATERS**

PHZ130 1 SW Kailua Kona **Channels Between The Islands** 

)5 0725HST 0745HST

T 0

0 Waterspout

A weather spotter on the Big Island of Hawaii sighted a waterspout off the Kona coast. No serious property damage or injuries were reported.